



**Kentucky Personnel Cabinet  
Office of the Secretary**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Public Service Recognition Week proclaimed**  
*October 3-9 dedicated to public employees*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 29, 2011)** – First Lady Jane Beshear today presented a signed proclamation declaring the week of October 3 as Public Service Recognition Week in Kentucky. The celebration began nationally in 1985 to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees and ensure that our government is the best in the world.

“Public servants are the backbone of our communities,” said Mrs. Beshear. “This week provides not only a means to express our gratitude, but an opportunity to increase awareness and appreciation for the many services public employees provide to benefit and protect our lives each day.”

School students throughout the state have shown their appreciation to public employees by participating in the fourth-annual Public Service Recognition Poster Contest. Students were asked to create a poster around this year’s theme, “State Employees – Making a Difference Every Day in Every Way.” The 2011 winners (see below) were in attendance today and were recognized by the First Lady.

- Arabella Grace Long, Taylor County Elementary School, age group 6-9
- Kisaki Takeuchi, Lyon County High School, age group 10-13
- Keri Dial, Metcalfe County High School, age group 14-18

As part of the week’s events, the Governor’s Ambassador Awards will be announced on Oct. 6 at the Frankfort Civic Center. The program recognizes state employees who significantly and positively impact the lives of their co-workers, customers and community at large. Nominations are submitted by peers and local citizens in the areas of customer service, courage, leadership, professional achievement, teamwork, or community service and volunteerism. Each award recipient is honored with an engraved, personalized brick placed outside the Kentucky History

Center. More than 100 nominations were received this year, involving approximately 230 employees.

Revenue Program Officer Natalie Brown, a 2010 Ambassador Award recipient, helped save the life of a man who had a heart attack while on the phone with her. "It was an honor to be a recipient of this award, and it was a privilege to stand alongside so many outstanding and hardworking employees. The Governor's Ambassador Awards is a great program that recognizes the spirit of our state government's dedicated workers who continue to serve the people of Kentucky."

Visit the Personnel Cabinet's website at [www.personnel.ky.gov](http://www.personnel.ky.gov) to view the poster contest winners and their artwork, a toolkit for managers, and the 2010 winners of the Governor's Ambassador Awards. Recipients of the 2011 awards will be available Oct. 6.

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